

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims:

This Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method for the analysis of liquids by means of X-ray spectrometry comprising,

introducing a liquid sample into a sample container comprising a container wall which leaves open an opening at a top;

positioning the sample container in a sample holder;

providing a cover which is smaller than the opening and freely movable relative to the container walls on a free surface of the liquid sample; and

analyzing the liquid sample.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the ~~sample-holder container~~ is a ~~sample container~~ for the X-ray analysis of liquids, which container comprises a container wall which forms a cavity for receiving a liquid sample, the container wall being constructed so as to be at least locally transparent to X-rays and leaving open an opening at the top, and cover which is configured for arrangement on the free surface of the liquid sample and is not rigidly connected to the container wall.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~sample container method~~ as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~8, wherein the cover has a diameter slightly smaller than the container opening and is freely movable relative to the container wall.

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~measuring device method~~ as claimed in claim 8, wherein the cover has a diameter slightly smaller than the container opening and is freely movable relative to the container wall.